



Office of Air Quality

Overview of the Eight-Hour Ozone Standard

Perry and Spencer Counties

Overview of 8-Hour Ozone Standard Designation Process

- July 17, 1997 - U.S. EPA announced new stricter national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for ground-level ozone.
- Spring 2000 - U.S. EPA released guidance concerning the designation process. States were encouraged to provide recommendations to U.S. EPA by June 30, 2000.
- June 30, 2000 - Indiana's original 8-hour nonattainment assessment was submitted to U.S. EPA.
- February 27, 2001 – U.S. Supreme Court upholds 8-hour ozone standard after designations delayed due to legal challenges.
- November 14, 2002 - U.S. EPA issues memorandum that outlines schedule for designating areas under the 8-hour ozone standard. Memorandum reflects agreement with national environmental groups, as a resolution to a lawsuit, to make final designations by April 15, 2004; requests states to submit recommendations by April 15, 2003.
- February 27, 2003 – U.S. EPA issues memorandum that extends the deadline for states to submit recommendations to July 15, 2003.

U.S. EPA 8-Hour Schedule

Spring 2003	Publish proposed implementation rule
July 2003	States provide designation recommendations
Late 2003	Publish final implementation rule
April 2004	Publish final nonattainment designations
Spring 2007	Nonattainment area SIPs due to EPA
2007-2021	Range of attainment dates

U.S. EPA Guidance on the Designation Process

Consistent with U.S. EPA Guidance, Indiana will use the following criteria to evaluate areas:

- Ozone monitoring data:
U.S. EPA has indicated that 2000-2002 monitoring data should be used for devising recommendations. However, U.S. EPA will use the 2001-2003 data for promulgating final designations if the data are available and quality assured.
- Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) boundaries for affected regions (MSAs with one or more counties that have a monitored violation)
- Transportation statistics and commute patterns
- Regional employment characteristics
- Meteorological trend information (wind patterns, etc.)
- Population, industrial, and commercial growth patterns.

Indiana's Outreach Approach:

- Information available through our website - and questions and comments can be shared through on-line forum. (<http://www.in.gov/idem/air/8hourstandard/index.html>)
- Mailing to interested and affected parties in each of the at-risk areas.
- Presentations/solicitation of comment through public meetings.

Preliminary Observations Concerning Perry and Spencer Counties

- Prior to going out of service in 2001, the monitoring site within Perry County maintained a design value above the standard.
- There are no active monitors currently within Perry or Spencer Counties.
- Population growth is minimal within Perry and Spencer Counties, and the emissions inventory is insignificant.
- Perry and Spencer Counties may qualify as a "rural transport" area.

Submitting comments or questions and obtaining additional information

- ❑ IDEM will be soliciting comment through the end of May 2003.
- ❑ Additional information is available on IDEM's web-site.

www.IN.gov/idem/air

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